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27 January 1967

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Conversation with Peter Jessup on Presidential Reading Habits

1. Peter Jessup called this morning to thank us for supplying a background paper on Soviet-French technical and scientific cooperation for Donald Hornig. (Attachment 1)

2. He went on to say that a previous background paper which he had asked for on economic implications of the Chinese Cultural Revolution had been given to Rostow, who had liked it so well that he had passed it on to the President with a note. According to Jessup, the President "appreciated and liked" the paper. (Attachment 2)

3. Jessup cited this experience as an example of how papers get to the President: the President will invariably return unread any document, however prestigious or portentous, if it is not accompanied by a personal note from someone whose authority or judgment he personally recognizes, e.g., Rostow, McNamara, Rusk, or the Director.

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